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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Programs Selected for DECAL Summer Transition Program**

***Program Targets Rising Kindergarten Students Who Did Not Attend Pre-K  
Or Need Additional Support***

**ATLANTA, Ga., (April 30, 2013)** – Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning has announced that 126 classrooms across Georgia have been awarded a six-week Summer Transition Program for rising kindergartners who either did not attend Georgia's Pre-K or Head Start, or attended but need additional support to be ready for Kindergarten next Fall.

The six-week high quality instructional program begins on Monday, June 3, 2013, and is targeted for children whose families are eligible for Child and Parent Services (CAPS) which is administered by the Department. A total of 126 classes will be offered.

"We are pleased to be partnering with these outstanding child care centers and schools in offering this important support for our State's youngest learners," said DECAL Commissioner Bobby Cagle. "These six weeks can potentially make all the difference in the world for these students as they prepare to enter kindergarten this fall."

"This is a great opportunity for these young students to build skills and confidence before moving up into kindergarten," said Susan Adams, assistant commissioner for Georgia's Pre-K, part of Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning.

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A complete list of child care centers, schools and their locations and contact information can be found on our website at <http://www.decal.ga.gov/Prek/SummerTransitionProgram.aspx>. Questions about the program can be e-mailed to [summerschool@decal.ga.gov](mailto:summerschool@decal.ga.gov).

### **About Bright from the Start**

Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning is responsible for meeting the child care and early education needs of Georgia's children and their families. It administers the nationally recognized Georgia's Pre-K Program, licenses child care centers and home-based child care, administers Georgia's Childcare and Parent Services (CAPS) program, federal nutrition programs, and manages voluntary quality enhancement programs.

The department also houses the Head Start State Collaboration Office, distributes federal funding to enhance the quality and availability of child care, and works collaboratively with Georgia child care resource and referral agencies and organizations throughout the state to enhance early care and education. For more information, go to [www.decal.ga.gov](http://www.decal.ga.gov).